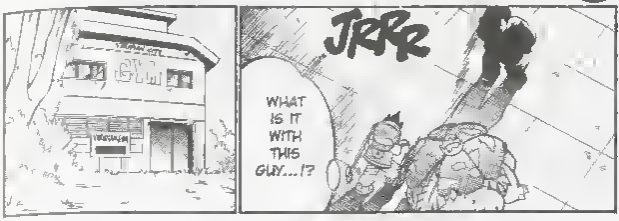
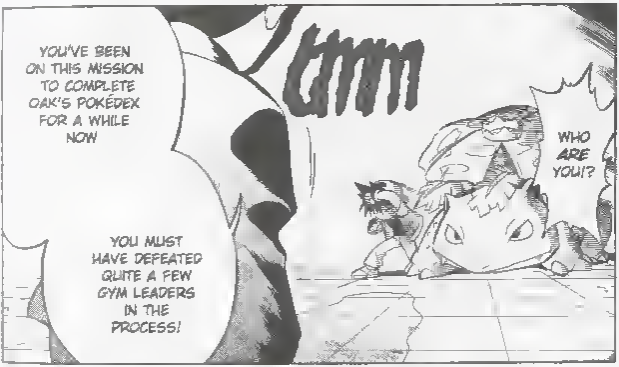
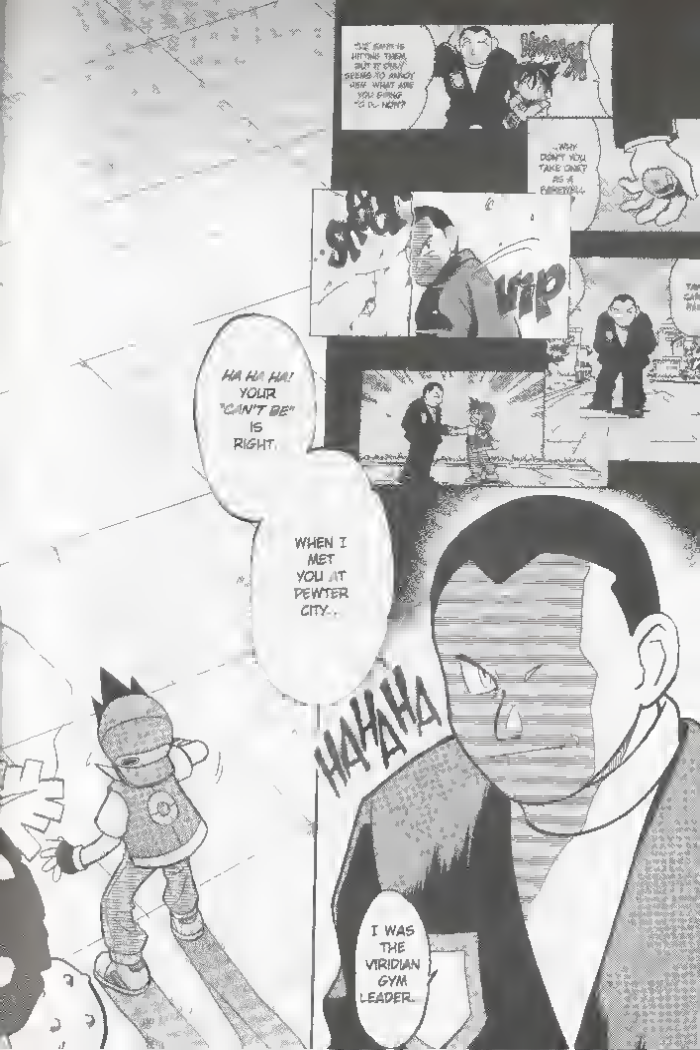

GYM
JRRR
WHAT IS IT WITH THIS GUY...!?

LOOK AT THAT FACE. YOU MUST BE A FAIRLY EXPERIENCED TRAINER BY NOW.
AN EXPERT, EVEN?


YOU'VE BEEN ON THIS MISSION TO COMPLETE OAK'S POKÉDEX FOR A WHILE NOW
YOU MUST HAVE DEFEATED QUITE A FEW GYM LEADERS IN THE PROCESS!
GRRR
WHO ARE YOU!?

WAS THE LAST TIME THE FOSSIL HUNT AT DIGLETT'S CAVE...? NO, WHEN THE SILPH COMPANY HEADQUARTERS WAS CRUMBLING
!

YOU'RE JUST A BUNDLE OF ENERGY AREN'T YOU, KID? HEH
HUH, BROTHER! YOU'RE TAKING STILL SO LONG?
COUGH
IT CAN'T BE ...!
WHERE WOULD IT GO ?
I-WOAH
WHAT IS IT?
I CAN'T HELP FEELING LIKE I'VE BEEN YOU SOMEWHERE BEFORE
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE BUT
ARE YOU SURE WE DIDN'T HAVE MET?
LOOK OUT, MISTER!
HUOO
AWAH
THE FOSSIL GUY...!?


"I'VE BEEN HITTING THEM, BUT IT STILL SEEMS TO ANNOY HIM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO IT, NOW?
...WHY DON'T YOU TAKE ONE? AS A FAREWELL.
STEAL
VIP
HA HA HA! YOUR "CAN'T BE" IS RIGHT.
WHEN I MET YOU AT PEWTER CITY...
HAHAHA
I WAS THE VIRIDIAN GYM LEADER.

YOU'VE CLASHED WITH TEAM ROCKET MANY TIMES... NOW YOU GET TO MEET ITS LEADER!
HENCE YOU CAN CALL ME GIOVANNI!
GOLLY, GOLEM!

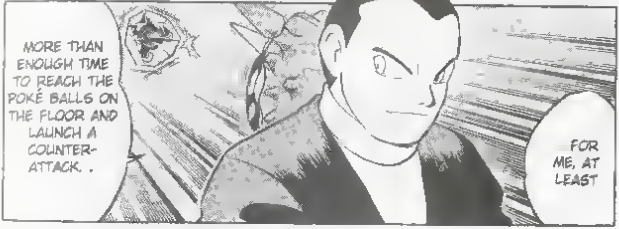
SO THAT TIME... YOU WERE TESTING ME!?
VOSH!
SHOT
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
OKAY... STAY COOL...
MY OPPONENT IS THE LEADER OF THE MOST EVIL POKÉMON ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD! I CAN'T LET MY GUARD DOWN FOR A SECOND!

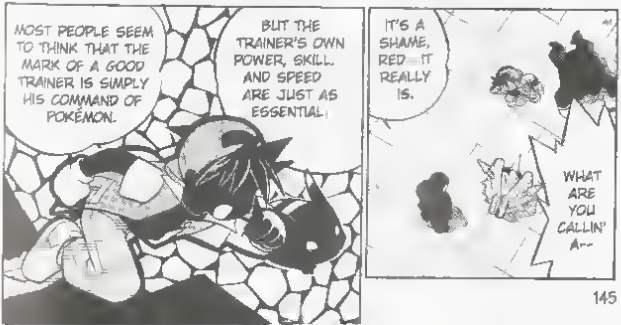
IS IT ONLY THE TWO OF US IN THIS GYM!? NAW .CAN'T BE! HE'S GOT TO HAVE UNDER-LINGS SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE!
SO DO I STRIKE FIRST OR IS THAT SUICIDE ..?
SO YOU'RE WONDERING HOW MANY OF YOUR ENEMY ARE IN THE BUILDING. YOU'RE WONDERING HOW POWERFUL I AM...
!!
AND YOU'RE WONDERING IF IT WOULD BE WISE TO STRIKE FIRST
DON'T WORRY. THERE'S NO ONE HERE BUT YOU AND ME. I HAVE NO REASON TO LIE
NOT ONLY THAT
TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK
!?

..I'M EVEN UNARMED. YOU HAVE ME AT QUITE A DIS-ADVANTAGE.. HEH.
NOW COME AT ME WITH ALL YOU'VE GOT.
YOU...
...WOULDN'T BE MAKING FUN OF ME, WOULD YOU!?
BLAM
VNN
!?
FSH
FANNNNNG
!!
DOP
WHA--!?

WHAT... JUST HAPPENED!?
IT TOOK ONE SECOND FOR YOU TO GRAB YOUR POKÉ BALL

BY THE TIME YOU THREW IT ANOTHER SECOND HAD PASSED
THREE SECONDS HAD ELAPSED BY THE TIME POLIWRATH LEFT THE BALL AND BEGAN IT'S ATTACK


MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO REACH THE POKÉ BALLS ON THE FLOOR AND LAUNCH A COUNTER-ATTACK..
FOR ME, AT LEAST


MOST PEOPLE SEEM TO THINK THAT THE MARK OF A GOOD TRAINER IS SIMPLY HIS COMMAND OF POKÉMON.
BUT THE TRAINER'S OWN POWER, SKILL, AND SPEED ARE JUST AS ESSENTIAL!
IT'S A SHAME, RED... IT REALLY IS.
WHAT ARE YOU CALLIN' A--

DON'T MIS-UNDER-STAND ME.
HUH ?
THERE WAS NOTHING SHAMEFUL ABOUT YOUR ATTACK.
THE SHAME... IS THAT YOU'RE NOT ON MY SIDE.
I COULD USE A TRAINER WITH YOUR STUBBORN-NESS, YOUR EXPLOSIVE ENERGY, YOUR EMPATHY WITH POKÉMON.
I'VE HEARD ABOUT ALL YOUR BATTLES WITH MY CAPTAINS.
AT FIRST I THOUGHT NOTHING OF THEM. BUT THEN I KEPT HEARING ABOUT THE SAME YOUNG MAN, SCORING VICTORY AFTER VICTORY....
YOU THINK I'D JOIN YOU!?
NO, ACTU-ALLY, I DON'T.
YOUR INDEPEN-DENCE AND HONOR ARE AMONG THE TRAITS I ADMIRE IN YOU.
SO, THEN... HOW ABOUT A BET?

AS YOU CAN SEE, MY POKÉMON ARE ON THE FLOOR AND FAR FROM ME
IT WILL TAKE SIX SECONDS FOR ME TO SEIZE ONE AND ATTACK.
ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU HAVE FIVE POKÉMON STILL AT YOUR SIDE
. . .
IF YOU CAN WIN UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, I'LL MAKE NO DEMANDS ON YOU. I'LL ACCEPT WHATEVER YOU DECIDE
HOW-EVER, IF I WIN,
YOU WILL SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE BATTLING FOR ME AT MY SIDE!
WELL? DOES YOUR SILENCE MEAN AN ASSENT? OR ARE YOU JUST AFRAID?
tak
AFRAID!? I DON'T THINK SO! I'LL TAKE THE BET. .
BUT ONLY IN A FAIR FIGHT!
HA HA HA HA! THAT'S WHAT I LOOK FOR IN A LIEUTENANT!

FAIR FIGHT-- MY BEST AGAINST YOURS!
KSH KSH
LET'S GO!
SHP
KSH
BOM
I BEAT YOU, GIOVANNI!
GRRR
GOFF

YOU'RE FAST, ALL RIGHT, RED..
WHOK!
!?
BUT A GREAT TRAINER KNOWS WHEN TO LET HIS OPPONENT STRIKE FIRST--
WH-WHAT..!?
BOOM!
--IN ORDER TO USE HIS SPEED AGAINST HIM!
stag
WWW
GKOOOM!
NO!
I BEAT YOU WITH MY SPEED BEFORE-- NOW I'LL BEAT YOU WITH YOUR OWN!
BOM
PAY ATTEN-TION!
LEARN SOME-THING!
GOLLL
!

GOLL
GAAH!
GOLLLL
ACK!
HEH HEH HEH... WHAT'S YOUR NEXT MOVE, RED?
SH-SHOOT..!
DON'T PANIC! THINK!!
GOLEM'S . LIKE SOME PROJECTILE BALL!
IT'S BOUNCING LIKE A PINBALL, TRYING TO HONE IN ON WHERE MY NEXT POKÉMON'S GOING TO APPEAR!
OKAY, THEN.

WHAT IF I DON'T TAKE OUT ANOTHER POKÉMON!?
SHAK!
GOLEM! ATTACK!
!
domp
GOLL
IF I JUST LET IT KEEP BOUNCING...
...GOLEM'S BOUND TO GET SICK OF SEARCHING. AND HEAD FOR THAT HOLE IN THE WALL!
AND THE SECOND IT DOES---
SNORLAX!
SNOR?

HEAD
BUTT!!
HOW'S THAT FOR A HARD HEAD!?
HOW SAD... GOLEM'S CRUMBLING! TOO BAD...
... IT'S BEST ATTACK INVOLVES SHATTERING!
SNOR-LAX!
LOOK OUT FOR THE...!
BOOM BAROOM
ROCK THROW!
NO!
AND NOW...

S-SNORLAX!
DOH!
tink
TOO LATE, RED IT'S OVER
ONE MOVE AND BEEDRILL DRILLS YOU.
THE MOMENT YOU PICKED SNORLAX, I CHOSE EXPLOSION FOR MY FINAL ATTACK BUT EXPLOSION CAN'T BE USED INDOORS
SSSHH
WHICH IS WHY I LET THE FIGHT GO OUTDOORS
I TOLD YOU YOU'D LEARN SOME-THING

NOW DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME JUST TO GIVE UP?
BZZZZ
POOF
grrrg
WELL, RED...?
KA
YOU'RE RIGHT.
GIVE IT UP!
NEXT...RED FIGHTS BACK!